

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO UR XH

SUBJECT: NEW ROUND IN DEBATE ON WHO LIBERATED YUGOSLAVIA

1. ARTICLE IN SEPTMEBER 25 JNA JOURNAL NARODNA ARMIJA ENTITLED
"WORDS OF PRAISE, AFFECTION"--AND UNTRUTH" COMMENTS THAT ARTICLE
BY SOVIET NEWS AGENCY APN, WHICH APPEARED SEPTEMBER 9 IN
CZECHOSLOVAK DEFENSE MINISTRY'S ORGAN ODBRANA LIDU, IS NEWEST
FALSE TREATMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA'S ROLE IN WAR. REFERRING TO (WARSAW
PACT) STATEMENTS LAST SPRING, WHICH SPARKED SHARP
PRESS EXCHANGES AND MAJOR SPEECHES BY TITO AND OTHER
YUGOSLAV LEADERS, NARODNA ARMIJA ARTICLE QUOTES LATEST
ASSERTION THAT RED ARMY LIBERATED YUGOSLAVIA FROM FASCIST
OCCUPIERS ALONG WITH OTHER COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE. AS IN
PAST, NARODNA ARMIJA REBUTS CONTENTION.

2. NARODNA ARMIJA COMMENTS "WE CANNOT...SILENTLY PASS OVER SUCH
TREATMENT AT THE EXPENSE OF YUGOSLAVIA AND ITS LIBERATION STRUGGLE,
REGARDLESS OF THE MOTIVE. FOR, AS COMRADE TITO SAID IN SKOPLJE
APRIL 3 OF THIS YEAR: 'WE WHO WERE PARTICIPANTS IN THAT STRUGGLE
MUST NOT ALLOW HISTORY TO BE FORGED OR DISTORTED. PERHAPS SOME
NEED THIS FOR POLITICAL REASONS. BUT, WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE

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SUCH REASONS AND WE CANNOT RECOGNIZE THEM FOR ANYONE."

3. COMMENT. WE RECALL LCY EXCOM JURE BILIC'S EXPLANATION LAST
SPRING OF WHAT "WE HAVE SET YOU FREE" MEANS: "THIS MEANS THAT
TOMORROW WE HAVE A RIGHT TO YOU; THIS MEANS THAT TOMORROW THEY
HAVE THE RIGHT TO RETURN..." (BELGRADE 1966).

SILBERMAN

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NNN

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